FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 SEPTEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Security Committee/Airport — A civilian airliner from Jidda landed at Beirut Airport after the Security Arrangements Committee agreed to reopen it, Beirut radio announced. During the committee's meeting, the parties exchanged lists of those kidnapped and detained, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. The radio said the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) representative submitted several demands, including the withdrawal of the Lebanese Army from the Kafr Matta-'Bayh area and its return to earlier positions and U.S. reparations for damage to PSP artillery emplacements in the Ash-Shuf. Other issues discussed during the session were procedures for a lasting truce and an agreement on observers to monitor the current cease-fire which would pave the way for a national dialogue conference — probably in Jidda or Riyadh — between the conflicting parties, a related KUNA report stated.

In New York Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam objected to the suggestion that UN observers monitor the cease-fire and proposed instead that the neutral observers specified in the cease-fire agreement not be affiliated with the United Nations, a stand supported by Saudi mediator Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, according to KUNA and SPA. If the cease-fire breaks down, the prince said, Lebanon will be in danger of being partitioned. This fear was echoed by the Chamber of Deputies in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio. If the dialogue conference is held to discuss Lebanese affairs before the Army deploys in the Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh areas, the conference will only consolidate a fait accompli — the partition of the country — the deputies stated.

Military/Security Situation — Two U.S. "marines" captured by Amal Movement gunmen when they entered an area in Beirut controlled by the faction were released unharmed on the orders of Amal leader Nabih Birri, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. After a day of sporadic sniping, Lebanese Army units in Qabr Shmun and the southern suburbs retaliated and silenced the fire on their positions, Beirut radio announced.

In a statement to REUTER and *The New York Times* in Tripoli reported by North Lebanon Voice of Palestine Radio, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat asserted that PLO fighters will remain in the Ash-Shuf. 'Arafat expressed confidence that PSP leader Walid Junblatt will not prevent PLO fighters from attacking IDF forces across the Al-Awwali River. Meanwhile, IDF units and the Syrian Army exchanged small arms fire in the southern Al-Biqa', ITIM reported.

Soviet Reaction to Cease-fire — During a meeting with PDRY Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad reported by TASS, CPSU Central Committee General Security Yuriy Andropov denounced U.S. interference in the Middle East and particularly in Lebanon. The Soviet leader declared his support for the cease-fire and expressed hopes that it will pave the way for a negotiated settlement on the basis of national accord.

Libyan Official Leaves Syria — Libyan Armed Forces Commander in Chief Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir left Damascus after meetings with Walid Junblatt and Palestine National Council (PNC) Speaker Khalid al-Fahum, Damascus radio and JANA noted.

PLO Affairs

The remaining Fatah fighters trapped by Syrian forces in northern Lebanon escaped through the "cordon" with all their weapons, vehicles, and equipment, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio announced. Responding to recent statements by 'Arafat on the siege, a Syrian information source cited by Damascus radio claimed that Syrian forces had asked, not ordered, the Fatah units to join other Syrian-Palestinian units in northern Lebanon after the Fatah fighters had killed several Syrian officers and men. The source also denied any siege of this group, asserting that the Fatah forces were allowed to move freely.

PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum and the PFLP-DFLP Joint Command issued separate statements reported by Damascus television and radio denouncing the recent internecine clashes — primarily between PFLP-General Command (GC) forces and PFLP-GC dissidents — in Palestinian camps near Tripoli. The dissidents also issued a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO which criticized the PFLP-GC led by Ahmad Jibril for the attacks on the camps as well for attempts to link Fatah forces with the fighting. The dissidents called for a PFLP-GC "general conference" to resolve their problems. Meanwhile, a Syrian convoy moved to tighten the cordon around the camps, according to the Voice of Lebanon. Earlier, Baghdad Voice of PLO reported that the two camps had come under a heavy rocket attack from Syrian and PFLP-GC positions.

Egypt

In a speech to the Council on Foreign Relations in New York carried by MENA, President Husni Mubarak warned that the current instability and division in the Middle East will definitely affect the flow of oil to the West and could threaten U.S. interests and credibility, as does the continuing Israeli presence in Lebanon.

Libya-Chad

Forces loyal to Goukouni Oueddei, head of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), are preparing to confront government units moving northward to cut the road between Faya-Largeau and Zouaou, JANA announced. In Paris GUNT Defense Minister Acheikh ibn Oumar told AFP that France and Libya must confer to help find a solution to the Chadian conflict, while French Defense Minister Charles Hernu declared that it is not up to France to meet with Libya but up to the two Chadian sides to negotiate a solution.

Meanwhile, Goukouni "strongly protested" the presence of a Chadian Government delegation at the General Assembly session in a message to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar reported by AFP.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

In a statement carried by INA, an Iraqi military spokesman denounced Iranian shelling of a small northern village near Sayyid Sadiq after Iraqi and Iranian forces had exchanged heavy artillery fire in the northern region and warned Iran that Iraq will retaliate for the "heinous act." Tehran radio subsequently reported Iraqi long-range missile attacks on residential areas in Dezful and Andimeshk.

Meanwhile, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani dismissed Western threats to dispatch warships to control the Gulf, saying that there is "no room for the big powers to enter this region," IRNA reported.

In another development, Deputy Prime Minister Mirza Taheri announced that Iran is now able and willing to cap the two remaining leaking oil wells at Nowruz if Iraq promises not to attack the offshore oil complex, IRNA said.

Pakistan

As voting continued in Sind Province, a clash between police and antigovernment protesters left 30 demonstrators and 3 police dead, AFP reported. Other clashes were reported between supporters of various candidates in the local elections. First reports indicated that voter turnout was light to almost nonexistent where the antigovernment Movement for the Restoration of Democracy had called for a boycott, AFP said. Karachi radio asserted that voting in Sind continued in a peaceful and orderly fashion with a high turnout and only briefly mentioned reports of "minor clashes between supporters of the candidates."

Afghanistan

Describing the situation in Paktia Province as "tense and deteriorating," the Peshawar-based Afghan information center announced that rebel forces captured an important government military post in the province 20 September, according to SPA.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Gandhi Addresses UNGA on Peace, Economic Issues

BK281700 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Sep 83

[Text] The prime minister has called for an immediate end to confrontation and conflict between the superpowers and for early global negotiations for a new economic order. Mrs Gandhi was addressing the UN General Assembly on behalf of India and 100 other nonaligned nations today. Her speech, one of the major highlights of the 38th session of the assembly, contained an impassionate plea for peace, because, she said, present military technology threatens the extinction of the human race.

Calling for resumption of negotiations for disarmament and a ban on production and testing of all nuclear weapons, Mrs Gandhi told the delegates from over 150 countries: No peace today, no life tomorrow.

Mrs Gandhi pointed out that scientists, scholars, and notable soldiers have vividly described the outcome of the nuclear war. She said imagine 100 or 1,000 Hiroshimas at one time and there will be a world with nowhere to hide and perhaps nobody left to hide.

Mrs Gandhi said we can all live only if we all combine in the struggle for peace.

In a survey of the international scene, Mrs Gandhi referred to the tensions in West Asia, Central America, Southern Africa, the complex situation in Afghanistan, and the conflicts in other regions and advocated peaceful political solutions for them.

On the West Asia problem, Mrs Gandhi said the Palestinians must be masters in their home and all states in the region should live within secured international frontiers.

On Afghanistan, Mrs Gandhi said the complex situation there can be solved on the basis of the twin principles of noninterference and nonuse of force. The prime minister pledged full support for the UN secretary general's representative in working for a solution, taking all involved parties into consideration.

Turning to urgent economic issues, Mrs Gandhi called for bolder moves in trade, financial, and technological cooperation and a new initiative to eliminate global poverty by the end of the century. She also renewed the call made by the New Delhi nonaligned summit for convening a conference on money and finance for development. Mrs Gandhi emphasized the need for a North-South dialogue and a new international economic order.

At the outset the prime minister said she was in the United Nations on a quest of peace and cooperation. She was there to give to the entire world the New Delhi message issued by the nonaligned summit. She quoted an excerpt from the message which said when the nonaligned plea (?was made) to give up confrontation and conflict, it is not out of presumption.

The prime minister told the General Assembly our plea for peace is not out of superior virtue because peace is indispensible and because the military technology threatens the extinction of the human race.

Mrs Gandhi also referred to the informal meetings of the world leaders being held at the United Nations and said no dramatic results are expected but the immensity of our challenges calls for persistence.

Praising the United Nations, Mrs Gandhi said that the world body has, however, not yet come near the beginning of a global approach. It is our task to improve this institution, to make it capable of facing difficulties not foreseen 40 years ago.

The prime minister concluded her address with a call to create a new international order where power is tempered with compassion and knowledge and capability are at the service of all humanity.

Mrs Gandhi was greeted with loud applause as she moved to the podium to address a large and distinguished gathering of delegates from all member countries. Before she began her speech the president of the General Assembly, Mr Jorge Illueca, introduced her to the gathering.

Prime Minister's Comments to Newsmen in New York

BK291629 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] The prime minister has urged industrialized nations to join the nonaligned countries in solving the current world economic crisis. Speaking to Indian newsmen in New York a short while ago, she described the crisis as the greatest problem of the day. The nonaligned (?should) share with richer countries, and they should sit together to remedy the situation. They should take a global view of the problem rather than think of their own difficulties alone.

About the Nonaligned Movement itself, Mrs Gandhi said it has gained great deal in strength. The process had begun even before India became its chairman. She pointed out even the aligned countries, whether of the NATO or of the Warsaw Pact, do not now have the cohesiveness that they had when they were formed. Being nonaligned does not mean that the members must change their views on various issues. We only see what is common among us and try to promote common good.

Replying to a question, Mrs Gandhi described as absolutely baseless the allegations of Indian interference in the internal affairs of Pakistan. She said she had written to President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan largely to point out the sufferings of Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan. He could hardly be a danger to any state at his age and in his present condition of health, she said.

Mrs Gandhi asked the Indians abroad to speak up for their country and to make the local people aware of the progress it has made.

In reply to a question about the purchase of shares by Mr Saraj Paul, she recalled that she had herself invited Indians abroad to invest in India as much as possible. But there was some misunderstanding about the buying of shares. Some curbs have now been put, and the present difficulties are only transitory. She said one

of the factors is that some Indians do not want competition after having had things their own way for a long time.

All-India Radio correspondent Monohar Thakru reports that Mrs Gandhi reacted sharply when a newsman asked her why India had not condemned the shooting down of the South Korean airliner as had been done by, what he called, the civilized world which supports human rights. Mrs Gandhi shot back to ask him whether these countries are supporting human rights in other countries like Pakistan and Chile or even the rights of the Black people right in the United States itself. She said there cannot be double standards. She also underlined the fact that using strong language does not solve problems, particularly when the world is heading toward confrontation. She said the plane incident is being investigated, and it would not be proper to comment on it at this stage. She said instant reaction on issues, whether by the East or the West, is not conducive to the solution of problems. Mrs Gandhi recalled that India had expressed sorrow over this deplorable incident.

Our correspondent adds that the prime minister is continuing her informal bilateral consultations with the visiting world leaders in New York. The president of Ecuador called on her today.

Spokesman Rejects Pakistani Interference Claims
BK290905 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] India has totally rejected all allegations of interference in the internal affairs of Pakistan. An official spokesman told newsmen in New York that the Indian Government has also taken exception to the release of President Ziaul Haq's letter to the press by the Pakistan Embassy even before it reached Mrs Gandhi. The spokesman pointed out that the present unrest in Pakistan preceded by many weeks the statements made by Indian leaders. He also recalled that it was Mrs Gandhi who had initiated a dialogue with Pakistan and brought about the agreement on the setting up of a joint commission.

Janata President Backs Gandhi Remarks on Pakistan
BK290513 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] The Janata Party president, Mr Chandra Shekhar, has supported Mrs Gandhi's statement expressing solidarity of the Indian people with the people of Pakistan who are agitating for the restoration of democracy. Mr Chandra Shekhar was participating in a roundtable discussion in New Delhi. He said a united and viable Pakistan is in the interest of India and only a democratic set-up in that country can guarantee its integrity.

Delhi Sit-in Demands Pakistan Free Gaffar Khan
BK300855 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] Members of the Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan Reha Karo Mang [demand for release of Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan] Committee are staging a dharna [sit-in] in front of the Pakistan Embassy in New Delhi today. The committee is led by the deputy chairman of the Metropolitan Council, Delhi, Mr Tajdar Babar. In a memorandum to the Pakistan ambassador, the committee demanded early and unconditional release of the veteran Pakhtoon leader. It said long detention of the renowned Gandhian has deteriorated his health and is causing anxiety.

'Considerable Progress' Reported in Tista Waters Talks
BK300721 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] Considerable progress is reported to have been made at the 2-day talks between India and Bangladesh on working out details of ad hoc arrangements on sharing the Tista waters between the two countries. The talks, which ended in New Delhi yesterday, will be resumed in Dhaka next month to formalize these arrangements. The Indian team to the talks was led by the irrigation secretary, Mr Patel, and the Bangladesh team by the additional irrigation secretary, (Sayeed Shamim Ahsan).

2 Killed, Several Injured in West Bengal Strike
BK281608 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Sep 83

[Excerpt] In West Bengal, a 24-hour statewide bundh [strike] sponsored by the ruling Left Front has been observed today. Two persons were killed and several injured in some incidents during the day. Official sources said that barring these incidents, the bundh had been peaceful.

An 18-year-old boy, stated to be a supporter of the Congress-I, was killed in North Calcutta when police fired to disperse two groups. At Suti, in Murshidabad district, a Communist Party of India-Marxist supporter was stabbed dead. More than 2,500 Congress-I workers and leaders in Calcutta and other places courted arrest, defying prohibitory order.

The chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, told newsmen that reports of clashes at some places have reached headquarters. Several people were injured in the clashes. He said that the response to the bundh was satisfactory.

The chief minister said that the bundh was called to protest against the center's alleged apathy toward the state.

Strike Ends 29 Sep
BK290320 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] In West Bengal, the 24-hour bundh [strike] called by the ruling Left Front ended at 0600 this morning. The city life is gradually returning to normal with the opening of the shops in Calcutta. Buses and trams and other vehicles have started plying. Yesterday, 2 persons were killed and about 50 injured in various violent incidents. The Congress-I has called for a 12-hour bundh today in North Calcutta to protest against the police firing and the death of a Congress-I worker.

Hyderbad City Described as Quiet; Curfew Extended

BK281332 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 28 Sep 83

[Text] The situation in the curfew-bound area of Hyderabad City is quiet. No untoward incident has been reported. However, as a precautionary measure, the curfew was extended by 24 hours till 0600 on Friday. It will be relaxed between 0600 and 1000 tomorrow to enable the people to purchase essential items.

The home minister, Mr Sethi, is going to Hyderabad tomorrow for an on-the-spot assessment of the situation there.

Home Minister Visits

BK291025 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] The union home minister, Mr P. C. Sethi, today visited the troubled areas of the old city Hyderabad to acquaint himself with the situation. Later, he went to the Usmania General Hospital and saw the victims of the recent violent incidents. Mr Sethi, who arrived in Hyderabad this morning, will have discussions with the chief minister, Mr N. T. Rama Rao, and others. He will also meet prominent citizens. During a tour of the old city, he was accompanied by the union minister for energy, Mr Shiv Shankar; the minister of state for railway, Mr Jaffer Sherif; the state information minister, Mr C. H. V. Rama Jogaiah; and the Congress-I opposition leaders. The Bharatiya Janata Party general secretary, Mr L. K. Advani, also visited various localities.

Meanwhile, curfew was relaxed for 4 hours in the morning and reimposed at 1000.

Task Force Established for Use of Soviet Technology

BK281358 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 28 Sep 83

[Text] The Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry [FICCI] has decided to set up a task force for identifying specific areas of technology that can be imported from the Soviet Union for setting up industries in India. Stating this, the FICCI president, Mr Ashoke Jain, said a list of advanced technology adaptable to Indian condition will be supplied soon for examination by Indian firms.

Mr Jain, who recently led a high-level delegation to the Soviet Union and other East European countries, was speaking to newsmen in New Delhi today.

'Peaceful Atmosphere,' Voter 'Enthusiasm' Noted in Sind

BK291650 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] Polling for the first phase of local bodies elections in Sind was held in a peaceful atmosphere today, with large numbersof people casting their votes. Polling was held in the entire Karachi division and in Hyderabad, Thatta, Badin, Sukkur, Shikarpur, [words indistinct], and the Kotri Taluk in the Dadu district.

The Radio Pakistan Karachi representative after visiting various polling stations in the city said that the voters were standing in long queues at the polling stations, awaiting their turn to vote. An unusually large number of women voters also turned up to cast their votes because of the peaceful atmosphere, which necessitated setting up of additional booths for women at various polling stations.

The Radio Pakistan representative from Hyderabad and Sukkur reported that the local bodies elections in Hyderabad, Sukkur, Shikarpur, and Jacobabad districts were completed this afternoon. Polling was generally held in a peaceful and orderly manner. However, there are reports of minor clashes between supporters of the candidates.

The provincial governor, Lieutenant General S. M. Abbasi, this morning inspected polling stations, one each in urban and rural areas, and saw the polling in progress. The governor told the Radio Pakistan representative that the administration has taken necessary measures to ensure that the voters cast their votes in a peaceful atmosphere. Both the candidates and the voters have expressed satisfaction at the fact that votes were cast in a peaceful atmosphere free from any fear or pressure. The government has taken effective and concrete measures to conduct elections in a free and fair manner and the enthusiasm shown by the voters at the polling stations and the conduct of the polling in a disciplined and orderly manner is the living proof of this fact, the governor added.

The Radio Pakistan representative says during the polling, the enthusiasm and keen interest shown by the people belonging to various walks of life bears testimony to their faith and confidence in the local bodies and their usefulness. Women voters also displayed similar enthusiasm in exercising their right to franchise.

The counting of votes began immediately after the end of the polling. The official results will be announced by the returning officers on Saturday evening and then they will be published in the official gazette.

Press Note Reports Highway Blocked by 'Miscreants'

BK291730 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] A press note issued by the district magistrate, Nawabshah, today says around midday today a group of about 300 to 400 miscreants blocked the national highway about 2 miles north of Sakrand. The authorities reached the spot and asked them to remove the roadblock which they refused to do. The law enforcing agencies proceeded to physically remove the roadblock without provocation. They were fired upon by gunmen hidden in the bushes as a result of which there were casualties on both sides. The roadblock has been removed and traffic on the road has resumed. So far seven persons have been arrested and further investigations are in hand.

AFP Account

BK291526 Hong Kong AFP in English 1519 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Karachi, Sept 29 (AFP) — Some 30 demonstrators and three soldiers were killed today in Sind Province during an exchange of fire between an army patrol and opponents of the Pakistani regime who were blocking the national highway, a reliable source reported.

Some of the demonstrators reportedly opened fire on military vehicles that were trying to remove barricades put up along the road. Three soldiers were killed instantly and four others wounded before an officer ordered the unit to return the fire, killing 30 to 35 of the demonstrators, sources said. The number of those wounded among the demonstrators was not immediately available.

The clash occurred around 1500 (1000 GMT) near Sakrand on the left bank of the Indus river in the Nawabshah District.

The victims were transported to a nearby hospital that had been placed under military control.

It was the worst incident of violence in the southern Sind Province since the start six weeks ago of anti-government agitation. Today's violence took place as local elections were being held in the province where opposition forces had called for a boycott of the polls and a general strike throughout the region.

In other reported incidents today, 14 persons in the crowded district of "new Karachi," north of the city, were injured during a scuffle between supporters of two candidates in which knives were used. The fighting reportedly broke out after the theft of a ballot box by one group of partisans. More than 20 persons were detained by authorities.

Clashes were also reported around several voting stations guarded by police and soldiers in the north of the province. In Tando Mohammad Khan polling officials were said to have fled after being attacked by opponents of the country's military regime.

In both major cities in the province and in the countryside first reports said voter turnout was light and sometimes nonexistent where the opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) had called for the boycott.

Delhi Cites Reports on Violence in Sind Districts

BK291704 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] Reports of violence have come in from the nine districts of Sind Province of Pakistan where local body elections were held today. Antigovernment demonstrators have burnt railway wagons and blocked roads in protest against the elections. Some reports say that the demonstrators also set on fire a number of houses. About 30 people were injured.

Political parties are not being allowed to contest these elections and the Movement for Restoration of Democracy has called for a boycott. The provincial authorities declared today a public holiday apparently to defeat the opposition's boycott call. At least 500 political activists have been arrested in the province during the last 3 days.

In the Punjab Province, where the polling took place yesterday, some candidates were reported to have been stabbed to death.

BBC Report on Railway Station Burning Denied

BK291734 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] The Railway Ministry in Islamabad today described a BBC broadcast saying that a railway station has been burnt down by demonstrators in Sind as absolutely false and without foundation. No such incident has taken place anywhere in the country.

AFGHANISTAN

President Karmal Tours Kabul 30 September

LD300850 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] Kabul, September 29, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, visited today the different parts of the Kabul city including department stores, shops and a wedding ceremony held at a hall of the Afghan department store. He was given an enthusiastic and rousing welcome by the people everywhere.

The areas visited by him were Mohammad Jan Khan Road, Macrorayan, Nader Pushtun Road and Zarghuna Maidan in Shahre Nau. He entered most of the department stores and shops located in these areas.

Babrak Karmal shook hands with the employees of the department stores and shops and enquired about their business and welfare. The military store and clubs were among the stores visited by him. He also visited state-run Baihaqi book store. He bought two books from there and gave instructions for improving the working of the book store.

Surrounded by hundreds of pedestrians, he walked from the Afghan department store located at the centre of Kabul city to the headquarters of the Central Committee of PDPA. On his way he chatted with the pedestrians who warmly greeted him with cheers, and enquired about their day to day life and problems and answered their questions.

Paktia Situation Called 'Tense, Deteriorating

LD292017 Riyadh SPA in English 1940 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 29 — (SPA) — The Afghan mujahideen have captured an important communist government military post at Serai [spelling as received] in Paktia Province on September 20, the Peshawar-based Afghan Information Centre reported today.

Several hundered Afghan government troops have surrendered after the siege of the post, the report said. It added nearly 150 government troops who had escaped from the post at the time of its surrender were not traceable.

The centre said it based its report on the fall of Serai military post on first hand information given by one of the mujahideen commanders, Malik Shakar who was present at the surrender time.

It said the Soviets carried on extensive aerial bombing of the area around Serai on the next day, September 21, causing damage to property and crop.

The report described the situation in Afghanistan's eastern Paktia Province as "tense and deteriorating."

BANGLADESH

AFP: Opposition Parties Launch Nationwide Protest

BK300644 Hong Kong AFP in English 0625 GMT 30 Sep 83

[By Golam Tahaboor]

[Text] Dhaka, Sept. 30 (AFP) — Opposition parties today launched a nationwide protest to call for a lifting of martial law and elections in their first united move against the military regime of Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

The protest was announced earlier this month following the formation of a major political alliance by 15 parties led by the Awami League (AL) and seven headed by the ousted Bangladesh National Party (BNP.)

The military regime has not yet publicly reacted to the planned protest, but sources said that precautionary measures had been taken against a possible outbreak of violence. However, the political, student, youth and labour organisations formed by Gen. Ershad have opposed today's protest, urging people to ignore who they call "political touts."

Tension here grew when the Nutan Bangla Juba Sanghati — the youth party — announced yesterday a counter programme in Dhaka. The Sanghati said they would hold twelve worker's rallies throughout the capital to "expose the misdeeds" of AL and BNP when they held power. They urged the government to "deal ruthlessly" with the protest.

The alliance's five-point demand urges an immediate end to martial law and a return to democracy, the holding of free parliamentary elections and the immediate lifting of all political restrictions. It also calls for the release of all political prisoners, including those convicted by martial law courts and those held following campus riots in mid-February.

Gen. Ershad, 53, who came to power in 1982 after toppling the civilian BNP government of Justice Abdus Sattar, has announced a series of local elections beginning December leading to national elections under the currently-suspended Constitution by early 1985. He has also promised to lift martial law, but no date has been mentioned.

The various member groups of the alliance have held preparatory meetings for today's protest here and in other towns. Five rallies were held in Dhaka yesterday in a bid to mobilise public support. Other rallies were planned today. Leaders addressing yesterday's rallies said that if the government did not accept the alliance's demands, they would plan further measures and step up their efforts to bring a return of democracy to Bangladesh.

Sheikh Hasina Wajed, chief of the AL's main faction, addressed students at Dhaka University Wednesday, calling on them to unit in the struggle to regain civil rights. She reminded the students of the prominent role they played in previous national movements and asked for their support in making today's protest a success.

A third opposition grouping, the rightist National United Front headed by former President Khondakar Mushtaq Ahmed, plans to observe a "democracy day" Monday. Khondakar Mushtaq returned from a pilgrimage to Mecca last Tuesday to organise the movement, which has similar aims as the BNP-AL alliance.

Earlier this year, martial law regulations were relaxed to some degree to allow political parties limited activity indoors. However, open rallies, meetings and processions are still banned.

The alliance will hold some meetings in their party offices today, but observers noted that previous such meetings had often defied martial law and have spilled out onto the streets.

SRI LANKA

New 'Policy Package' on Tamil Issues Considered

BK291039 Colombo The Sun in English 21 Sep 83 p 1

[By *Sun* political correspondent]

[Text] The Tamil United Liberation Front's [TULF] refusal to disavow separatism and initiate a dialogue to resolve Tamil problems has necessitated the government give consideration to a new policy package as part of its own efforts.

This new deal was described by a high-ranking government source yesterday as a "package for national unity seeking to deal with the anxieties of all communities."

While no formal blueprint for this policy package has been spelt out, *Sun* reliably learns it will encompass a series of new measures. Among those now receiving the attention of the government is the introduction of a principle of proportionality for all state sector recruitment — a ratio based on the population of the communities — a re-orientation of the Development Councils [DC] and the setting up of a National Commission for Community Issues.

This re-orientation, *Sun* learns, is to bring about what is being described as "graduated DCs" — those enjoying little power in some areas and more powers in other districts. The idea, the same source explained, is to ensure a greater degree of autonomy in the districts where the process of development could be expedited. Consideration is also been given to the necessity of changing the designation of Chairman of DCs and re-allocation of functions of Executive Committee members.

Contrary to earlier expectations, government sources yesterday ruled out the possibility of a conference of political parties subscribing to the concept of a unitary state before the policy package is formulated and implemented.

Sun learns the government will go ahead with its own.

Until now, Indian Premier, Indira Gandhi's good offices used to get the TULF to abandon or even suspend its separatist call and come to a conference table have not borne fruit. Her special envoy, Shri Gopalaswamy Parthasarathy, had a series of meetings with TULF leaders (besides others) during a week-long stay here. Both TULF Secretary-General, Appapillai Amirthalingam and President, M. Sivasithamparam, are reported to have made statements (at press conferences, interviews) refusing to disavow separatism.

Mr. Amirthalingam is now reported to be in London while Mr. Sivasithamparam is in Madras.

President J. R. Jayewardene last week wrote to Premier Gandhi, thanking her for her good offices and informing her a date for Mr. Parthasarathy's second visit here would be suggested when Mrs. Gandhi returned to New Delhi after attending UN sessions in New York.

Although Indian newspapers have speculated on a likely visit by October, observers believe it may be delayed further. This is particularly in view of the Foreign Office being kept very busy with the impending visit here of President Chon Tu-hwan of South Korea.

Iraqis Attack Andimeshk, Dezful With Missiles 30 Sep
GF300530 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] According to the Central News Unit from Ahvaz, the criminal Zionist Saddam regime, which is unable to resist the strong Islamic combatants on the battlefronts, once again made the residential areas of Dezful and Andimeshk wallow in dust and blood with the missiles presented to them by the superpowers of the East and West in the early hours of this morning, injuring and martyring a group of our compatriots.

According to this report, four residential areas of Dezful and Andimeshk were the targets for the attack by long-range surface-to-surface missiles of the criminal Saddamists at 0243 this morning. According to the latest figures received at 0800 this morning, 20 people were martyred and 130 were injured in Dezful and 20 people were martyred and 120 were wounded in Andimeshk. In this dastardly attack, large numbers of houses and shops were destroyed.

Following this barbaric attack, the heroic and ubiquitous residents of Dezful and Andimeshk and relief groups hastened to the scene to aid the wounded and injured and to remove the bodies from the debris, thus beginning their relief operations.

It is reported that 60 houses and shops were completely destroyed and 120 houses were damaged from 20 to 70 percent.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,475
LD291749 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Communique No 1,475 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The situation on the battlefronts of the imposed war is brought to the attention of our dear compatriots. Fighting between the proud warriors of Islam and the aggressive Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries continued yesterday on the country's northwestern fronts, from Piranshahr to Marivan, in the form of artillery and other heavy weapons fire exchanges. Our forces, by further consolidating their defensive positions and monitoring the movements of the Iraqi forces, opened fire on enemy positions and units, killing or wounding a number of Iraqi troops and damaging arms and equipment. The exchange of fire was most intense in the Kodu region and its heights.

Sporadic exchanges of fire continued on the Bakhtaran border front, being most intense in the Meymak sector. The powerful combatants of Islam defended their positions and the regions under their protection, returned the fire of the Iraqi forces, and monitored their movements.

Thanks to the artillery fire of our powerful combatants on these fronts, Saddamist troop movement were halted and one ammunition depot, four trucks, and a number of troop positions and equipment were set ablaze and destroyed. One enemy tank was damaged and put out of action.

Exchanges of fire between our powerful forces and the Saddamist mercenaries continued on the southern fronts, being most intense in the Sharhani sector. Our victorious combatants, by dispatching patrol groups and by opening covering fire, monitored Iraqi troop movements and disrupted enemy engineering and logistic activities.

An Iraqi forces patrol group clashed with a patrol group of the self-sacrificing forces of Islam in the region near the 'Anbar River. In the course of this clash, two enemy patrol troops were killed, while our combatants captured one RPG-7 of the Saddamist mercenaries.

During exchanges of fire on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the brave warriors of the Gendarmerie and other combatants stationed on these fronts pounded the positions and military installations of the Saddamist forces, silenced their fire and inflicted some losses.

Abadan yesterday came under the long-range artillery fire of the criminal Saddamists. Some parts of the city were damaged.

The Saddamist criminal mercenaries yesterday launched an air raid on the city of Dezh Shahpur. This barbaric crime resulted in two of our dear compatriots being martyred and 15 others wounded.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Amnesty International Reports Termed 'Totally False'
LD291826 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] In connection with a report by the International Federation for Human Rights and the Amnesty International Organization on violation of human rights and the situation concerning prisoners in Iran, a spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced the following:

The totally false reports by Amnesty International and other similar organizations — published on the eve of the UN General Assembly session, with the participation of the Iranian foreign affairs minister and at a time of tense political situation in the region — are known propaganda methods employed by imperialism and Zionism against the Islamic Republic of Iran. The accusations raised in these reports are downright lies and are nothing more than a repeat of similar reports published or broadcast at times by the papers affiliated to the counterrevolution, terrorist minigroups, and Western propaganda mouthpieces which quote unknown individuals or fugitive terrorists.

The Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman, while referring to the documents raised in the reports as also being forged, said: Offenders in the Islamic Republic of Iran are treated on the basis of court verdicts in accordance with the judicial laws of Islam. Rumors of torture and other accusations referred to in these organisations' reports are not true.

11 Drug Smugglers Executed in Zahedan 29 September
LD291320 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] The Central News Unit reports from Zahedan that 11 members of an international gang of drug smugglers were executed there this morning.

Majlis Speaker Comments on War, Lebanon Cease-fire
LD291725 Tehran IRNA in English 1015 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 29, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here Wednesday that Iran had so far maintained security of the Persian Gulf and would do so in future, adding that there was no room for the big powers to enter this region.

Speaking after a meeting of the Supreme Defence Council (SDC), Rafsanjani who is also Imam Khomeyni's representative at the SDC, noted that no attention should be paid to the threats of Western countries to dispatch warships to control the Persian Gulf.

Referring to foreign military and economic assistance for the Baghdad regime, the Majlis speaker said that they were advised to stop their aid for Iraq, adding that the Islamic Republic's tolerance in this respect was limited.

Of course, he said, those countries never accepted officially that they were rendering such assistance to Iraq but since the main issue for the Islamic Republic was the security of the Persian Gulf, it therefore would ignore some other issues to some extent.

Commenting in the recent inspections of the head of the Red Cross Committee of war devastated areas in Iran, Rafsanjani said that now that the world had realised Iran was in a more powerful position and Iraq ruler's political situation had become clearer than before, some flexibility was seen in the attitude of some international organisations and powers.

Due to recent victories achieved by the Islamic combatants in the fronts of the Iraqi imposed war, the future of the war had become clear to some extent and those who would say that the war would have no military triumph were now predicting the possibility for it, noting that Red Cross had also changed its earlier attitude and might take better position.

Referring to the establishment of ceasefire in Lebanon, the Majlis speaker said that no ceasefire could be imposed on Lebanon unless demands of the people there were met.

He added that forces of the four big countries were re-embarked in Beirut and their warships had been docked near the area, a measure to terrify people. But, he stressed, Lebanese people, especially the Muslims, would not yield to such an imposed ceasefire and would continue their struggle.

Present at the meeting were President Ali Khamene'i, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, Chief of the Joint Staff General Qasem 'Ali Zahirnezhad, Defense Minister Col. Mohammad Salimi, Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps Minister Mohsen Rafiqdust, Head of the War Information Headquarters Kamal Kharrazi, and SDC Secretary Nazaran.

President Khamene'i Hails Intelligence Successes
LD291754 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Excerpt] On the occasion of the first anniversary of the formation of Sar-Allah [God's Vengeance], members of the 10th District Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and personnel of Sar-Allah and Al-Qari'a [from the Koran, meaning calamity or disaster] patrol groups of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps met this morning with Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council.

In a speech at this meeting, the president said: Your determined and happy faces, beloved ones, shed light on our work and life. The presence of the Sar-Allah and Al-Qari'a patrol groups is tantamount to the presence of the Islamic Republic of Iran in various corners of our towns. Certain counterrevolutionaries and minigroups were engaged in activities to confront the great popular movement in the nation. They were too insignificant to even be reckoned as a group amid the vast ocean of the nation. There existed enough disunity and animosity inside the ranks of these minigroups that by themselves were sufficient to bring about the destruction of those minigroups. The only thing which kept them going was the hand of world arrogance and big powers like America and the Soviet Union who were afraid of the Islamic Revolution lest they might lose their interests in the region. The minigroups were nothing by themselves, but they were like a dagger used against us by world arrogance. Through decisive action, the Islamic Republic of Iran deprived the world arrogance of this tool and made it plain to them that if they want to fight against the Islamic Republic of Iran they should confront it in the battlefronts, not by inciting the minigroups to fight against the Islamic Republic.

Referring to the repeated failure of America's plots against the Islamic Republic of Iran and its fear of confronting the Islamic Revolution, the president said: Ever since the beginning of the revolution, America has made great efforts against us, the latest of which was to impose the war upon us. However, despite all its show of force, today wherever it turns America is delivered a blow.

Referring to the fact that in the early days of the revolution a number of malicious and ignorant people chanted slogans saying that we had no need for intelligence services, Khamene'i added: In such an atmosphere, world intelligence organizations like the KGB and CIA imported what they wanted. They exchanged documents and made use of people like Sa'adati [accused of spying for the Soviet Union and later executed]. In such an atmosphere, we did not expect to be able to uproot all the corruption. However, we are able now to state that we have stopped a vicious movement which started from the early days of the revolution. You brothers from Sar-Allah patrol groups were the most important elements in achieving this. You embodied the strength of the Islamic Republic of Iran and you proved to the world that the Islamic Republic exists and it is powerful.

Referring to the claim of the minigroups which used to say that they had the strength to deal blows to the Islamic Republic of Iran, the president said: The brother guards with their presence upon the scene demonstrated that the Islamic Republic of Iran is strong and powerful and that it can see, it can identify, and it can arrest. This is a divine power. Contrary to what is the case in all other countries of the world, this country's intelligence organization has not been trained by any foreign intelligence organization. The brothers who are supervising and checking the activities of the counterrevolutionaries in the streets have not been trained by any world police force. Only through their faith are they strengthening the foundations of order in the Islamic Republic in an atmosphere in which the counterrevolutionaries thought they were strong.

Prime Minister Lauds Role of Workers in War Effort

GF291656 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 29, IRNA — Prime Minister Musavi of the Islamic Republic of Iran today issued a message in connection with the seminar on the role of mobilisation of the workers in the Iraqi imposed war. In the message Musavi hailed the untiring efforts of the workers in moving the country forward after the Islamic Revolution and particularly after the outbreak of the war.

Musavi said in his message that on September 22, 1980 when the Islamic Republic of Iran was invaded by the Iraqi Ba'thist army which enjoyed the all-out support of the imperialistic news networks of the U.S. together with financial and military aids of the world oppression and the reactionary Arab regimes, the enemies of Islam thought that Iran would be unable to stand up against the invasion neither militarily nor in terms of logistic, engineering, repairs, implements, personnel and many other service.

The prime minister added that contrary to their fancies the short period between the culmination of the Islamic Revolution and the outbreak of the war provided the active strata of the society and especially the workers with the opportunity to grow and be prepared to encounter the very important issues that awaited them in future.

He said that the foreigners did not believe and the East, which bolstered Iraq with its giant war machine, did not imagine that the mobilisation of the workers of a faithful nation could, so speedily, succeed in operating the factories carrying out, repairs and improvising scores of different things. The prime minister concluded the message by expressing the government's appreciation for the unsparing efforts of the active workers.

Musavi-Kho'ini Praises Pilgrims' Hajj Participation

GF291855 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] In a statement to our correspondent in Tehran today following his return from his visit to the holy mosque, Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini, the imam's representative and superviser of the Iranian pilgrims, termed the political worship activities of the pilgrims this year as being successful. He added: The pilgrims demonstrated adherence to the Islamic Revolution through their active presence and through their active participation in the pilgrimage.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini pointed out that the participation of 100,000 Iranians pilgrims in the pilgrimage this year reflects the political stability and the good economic situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran. He continued that the vows and chants of the Iranian pilgrims made our country foremost of the countries that are antagonistic to arrogance and Zionism. Moreover, the slogans shouted by the pilgrims in their expression of support and backing for the oppressed Muslims in Lebanon and in protest against the crimes committed by the entity that occupies Jerusalem pointed out that Iran of Islam occupies the front trench in defense of the Palestinian Muslims and the anti-Zionist movements in the world.

Official on Capability To Cap Other Oil Wells

LD292127 Tehran IRNA in English 2003 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 29, IRNA — The Iranian experts and workers could also bring under control the spillage from the two other oil wells at Nowruz oil fields, north of Persian Gulf, as they controlled the oil well number 3, announced Mirza Taheri, deputy prime minister and head of the environmental protection organisation of Iran, here today.

Commenting on the propaganda of the imperialistic news agencies and some of the prejudiced Westerners, Marza Taheri said that the world oppression instead of admitting the scientific and technical abilities of the Iranians in controlling the oil spill, after several days of vague news by their media, were (?now making) another propaganda uproar saying that the two other Iranian oil wells still poured in considerable oil into the Persian Gulf waters.

The head of the environmental protection organisation of Iran attributed this hostility to that the big powers played no part in the great technical and scientific success of the Iranians in capping one of the oil wells. [Word indistinct], he said that if the West had done the same thing, then daily numerous commentaries and analyses would have been published illustrating their scientific achievements. Continuing, he said that when the Iranian committed workers achieved this big victory single-handedly then they (West) launched a new round of propaganda about the two other leaking Iranian oil wells rocketed by the Iraqi forces, thus trying to overshadow Iran's great technical achievement in capping the oil well.

Mirza Taheri, the deputy prime minsiter further added that several technical and oil officials in (?the region) have expressed their gratitude and praise for this worthy deed. Adding he said that as it had been time and again in the Kuwait conference [as received], Iran was capable of controlling the remaining two oil wells and putting an end to the pollution of the Persian Gulf waters, as the regional states wished. However, he added, the Iraqi regime had to guarantee that it would not target the Iranian offshore oil wells. Mirza Taheri, once again commended the Iranian experts, and workers on their achievement, calling it victory of faith over technology.

Spokesman Details Oil Ministry Operations
GF281800 Tehran IRNA in English 1716 GMT 28 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 28, IRNA — The spokesman of the oil ministry said here today that during the past Iranian year 1361 (March 21, 1982-March 20, 1983) 42,832-plus million liters of various types of oil was conveyed to different parts of the country by 9,540 kms of oil trunkline, up by 14 percent as compared to the preceding year. The following is a summary of the operations of the oil ministry during the past Iranian year as declared by the ministry's spokesman.

-Operation of trunklines in the calendar year: 20,999 million tons/km, up by six percent as compared to the year 1360.

-Conveyance of oil by the above lines: 9,450 kms of pipes, 12 pumping stations, and pressure regulators, 219 rust-control stations, and 216 sets of principal equipments with a power of 545,700 of horsepower.

-Instances of leakage: due to collision of objects or other: 27.

-Number of on-going projects: 27, with a total price of 255,222,500, rials (dlrs. 3.m.) of which two were completed.

-Oil lines of 14, 16, and 18 inches between Rey and Rasht were filled with fuel oil during September and October, and was put to operation after completion of Tehran-Qavvin line.

-Reservior number 11 of Rey was put to operation by being linked to the 18-inch line from Esfahan.

-Esfahan-Kerman line and Yazd piping facilities were put to operation by being linked with a 14-inch and another 16-inch line of Esfahan-Kerman.

-A piping station in the city of Sabzevar was put to operation, increasing by about 50 percent the conveyance capacity of a trunkline between Sharhrud and Meshad.

-Refinery operations of refineries: 89,351 cubic metres of crude per day, up by four percent as compared to the preceding year.

-Output of Tehran refinery: 32,569 cubic metres of crude per day, or 204,852 bpd 2.5 percent in excess of its projected capacity.

-Output of Esfahan refinery: 36,182 cubic metres of crude per day, or 227,578 bpd, about 13.8 percent in excess of its projected capacity.

-Output of Tabriz refinery: 11,341 cubic metres of crude per day, or 71,333 bpd, about 15 percent in excess of its [words indistinct] 6,850 cubic metres of crude oil per day, or 43,085 bpd, about eight percent in excess of its projected capacity.

-Lavan distilling complex: 2,409 cubic metres of crude oil per day, or 15,152 bpd, about 20 percent in excess of its normal capacity.

Jerusalem Headquarters Opened by Senior Officials
GF300850 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 30 Sep 83

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Dibachi, representative of Grand Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, and Brother Yazdi, Qom Majlis deputy and deputy Majlis speaker, and the brother Iranian commander of the revolution guards in Qom, attended special ceremonies opening the Jerusalem Headquarters yesterday.

During the ceremonies, the deputy Majlis speaker talked about the war the Iraqi regime has imposed on Muslim Iran. He noted that this regime is considered by the Muslim Iranian people as an agent for world imperialism. He also described Saddam's regime as a barrier to the forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in their march toward Jerusalem. Brother Yazdi affirmed the need to mobilize all forces of the Islamic Revolution to annihilate the Zionist entity and liberate the Muslim land of Palestine. He also considered the superpowers' fear and consternation of Islam and the world Muslim people's support for the Islamic Revolution as an indication of the spreading the Islamic movement outside Iran.

In affirming the identical arrogant nature of the superpowers in plundering the Muslim peoples and the Third World countries, the deputy Majlis speaker condemned the superpowers' plots, oppression of peoples, and propogating Western culture among Muslim peoples.

Khomeyni Receives Martyrs' Families 28 September
GF281804 Tehran IRNA in English 1616 GMT 28 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, sept. 28, IRNA — The leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, today received the families of martyrs of Tehran and the suburbs together with the personnel of Sar-Allah patrols at Jamaran Mosque.

During the meeting, the imam's representative and head of martyrs foundation, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mahdi Karrubi, in a speech referred to the ceremonies held during the war week and commended the families of martyrs and Islamic combatants for their devotion and untiring efforts. He also expressed appreication, on behalf of Imam Khomeyni, to the martyrs' relatives and the combatants.

Also meeting with Imam Khomeyni today was Ayatollah Nasir Makarem Shirazi, a teacher of theology at Qom Theological school.

Secret Armenian Army To Open Reza'iyeh Office
GF291633 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 29 Sep 83

[Text] A reliable report from Tehran says the secret Armenian army, ASALA, intends to open a military and political office in Reza'iyeh in cooperation with the Islamic Republic regime.

ASALA, which has been getting money and arms from the Islamic Republic, has been carrying out operations against French interests in Iran in collusion with the Iranian regime.

The same report indicates that the motive for opening this office, which will be called the Society of Iranian Armenians, is so this organization can penetrate Turkish territory through Reza'iyeh and (?Salmars) and carry out terrorist activities against Turkish interests as well.

Energy Minister Returns From CSSR 26 September

LD261006 Tehran IRNA in English 0924 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 25, IRNA — Iranian Energy Minister Hasan Ghafuri-Fard and his accompanying delegation after their few days visit from Czechoslovakia arrived here this evening.

In their meeting with the Czech officials there, talks were centred on the expansion of ties in technological fields between the two countries. The Iranian delegation on their way back had a stop over of two days at Syria. During their stay at Syria the Iranian delegation held talks with Syria's energy minister on the exchange of technical information between the two countries.

The Iranian delegation of Czechoslovakia comprised officials from the Ministry of Energy, Industry, Agriculture, Foreign and Heavy Industry of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Correction to Finance Minister on Cooperation

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Finance Minister on Cooperation With Industrial States," published in the 29 September South Asia *Daily Report* on page I 4:

First paragraph reads:—[Text] Tehran, Sept 28,IRNA—Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance Hoseyn Namazi said here that to implement and accelerate industrial projects, the Islamic Republic would welcome cooperation of advanced industrial states provided that it did not entail. . .(supplying dropped lines)